

AMENDMENT

Amendments to the Claims:

Claims 1-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (currently amended): A vector comprising a gene encoding ~~the~~ a fusion protein ~~of Claim 1~~ comprising (a) a ligand-binding domain, (b) a domain that associates when a ligand binds to the domain of (a), and (c) a domain that imparts proliferation activity to a cell upon the association.

Claim 6 (original): A cell carrying the vector of Claim 5.

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Claim 7 (canceled).

Claim 8 (original): A vector comprising a desired exogenous gene and a gene encoding a fusion protein comprising (a) a ligand-binding domain, (b) a domain that associates when a ligand binds to the domain of (a), and (c) a domain that imparts proliferation activity to a cell upon the association.

Claim 9 (original): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the “domain that imparts proliferation activity to a cell upon the association” is derived from a cytokine receptor.

Claim 10 (original): The vector of Claim 9, wherein the cytokine receptor is a G-CSF receptor.

Claim 11 (original): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the "ligand-binding domain" is derived from a steroid hormone receptor.

Claim 12 (original): The vector of Claim 11, wherein the steroid hormone receptor is an estrogen receptor.

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Claim 13 (original): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the "gene encoding a fusion protein" and the "exogenous gene" are located on the same molecule.

Claim 14 (original): The vector of Claim 8, wherein the "gene encoding a fusion protein" and the "exogenous gene" are located on separate molecules.

Claim 15 (original): A cell carrying the vector according to any one of claims 8 to 14.

Claim 16 (canceled).

Claim 17 (withdrawn): A kit comprising (a) the vector of Claim 5 or Claim 8, and

β^1 (b) a ligand capable of acting on the "ligand-binding domain" of the fusion protein encoded by the gene contained in the vector.
